

# Weed Watcher Guide to Invasive Plants, Trail Weeds and A Few Native Lookalikes

For the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie and Okanogan Wenatchee National Forests and the  
Upper Snoqualmie Watershed

By Sasha Shaw, King County Noxious Weed Control Program  
[www.kingcounty.gov/weeds](http://www.kingcounty.gov/weeds)



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## Absinth Wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*)

- Herbaceous, perennial plant that can grow up to 5 ft. tall
- Many branching stems from a woody base
- Leaves alternate, gray-green, 1-4 in. long and give off a strong sage-like scent when crushed
- Lower leaves are divided into 2-3 segments and the upper leaves are not divided
- Flowering in midsummer, pale yellow, tubular flowers in drooping heads in the axils of the leaves.
- Open and disturbed sites



## Hedge Bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*)

- Also called morning glory
- Similar to field bindweed but larger in all aspects
- Arrow-shaped leaves, few or no hairs
- Large, trumpet-shaped flowers that are white with large bracts (leaf-like part of plant) right below the flower
- Leaves alternate on stem
- Perennial plant, extensive, spreading roots, whitish and fleshy
- Twines around other plants, fences, etc, using them for support
- Flowers May-September





## Bittersweet Nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*)

- Vine or scrambling shrub, lower stems woody, upper branches herbaceous
- Star-shaped flowers, purple, backward-pointing petals and stamens fused in a prominent yellow cone, grow in clusters along branches on short stalks extending out from the stems
- Berries round or egg-shaped and bright red when ripe with numerous yellow, flattened seeds; unripe berries are green
- Leaves are dark-green to purplish with one or two small ear-like lobes near the base
- Leaf blades are 1 to 4 inches long

- Crushed leaves and bark have an unpleasant smell
- Flowers from mid-May to September



## Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*)

### Evergreen or Cutleaf Blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus*)

- Himalayan blackberry leaves palmately compound with large, rounded, toothed leaflets, in groups of 5 on main stems, 3 on new or trailing stems
- Evergreen or cut-leaf blackberry has deeply incised leaflets

- Stout, ridged, arching canes with large stiff thorns
- Up to 15 feet tall; canes to 40 feet
- Small, white to pinkish flowers with five petals and large berries
- Canes root at the tips, creating daughter plants
- Can be distinguished from the native trailing blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*) by tall, arching reddish-brown canes that have ridges (not round) and larger fruits and flowers



Photo by Ben Legler

Evergreen or Cutleaf Blackberry



Himalayan Blackberry





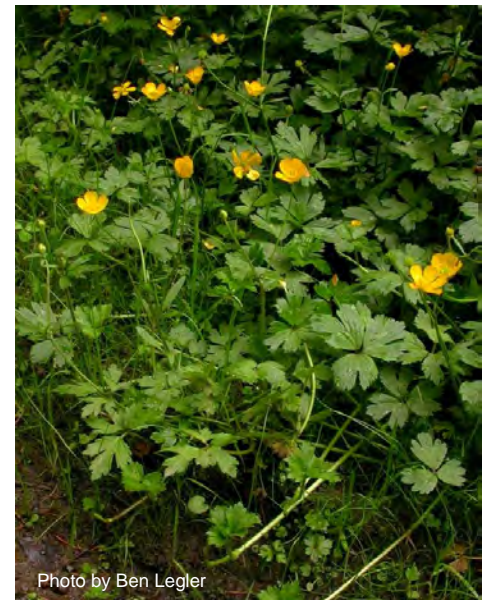
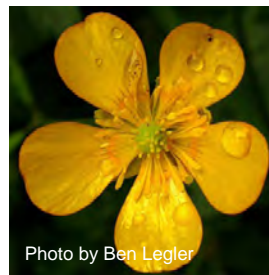
## Bugleweed (*Ajuga reptans*)

- Mat-forming, blue-flowered, aromatic perennial, spreading by leafy stolons
- Flowering stems 4 to 12 inches tall, square and hairy on two sides
- Leaves opposite, ovate to oblong,  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 2 inches long, glabrous (not hairy), often bronze-colored, the lower leaves with long stalks
- Upper parts of stems have flowers in groups of 2-6 in the leaf axils
- Flowers blue, irregularly tubular with upper and lower "lips"; the upper lip very short, the lower lip with two lateral lobes and longer center lobe
- Blooms May-June



## Creeping Buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*)

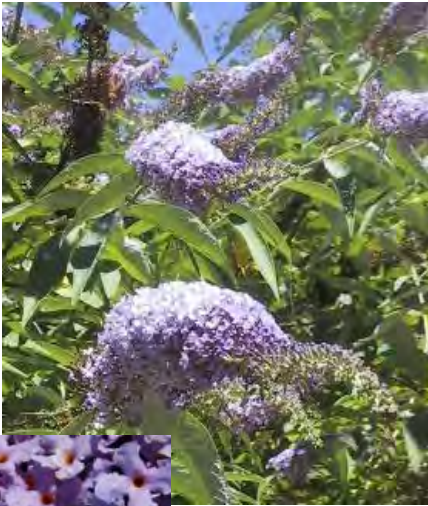
- Low-growing, groundcover, hairy perennial from fibrous roots, stems rooting at the nodes
- Flowers on long stalks (up to 6 inches long), single, yellow, shiny, usually five petals but can have up to 10, numerous stamens and pistils, sepals hairy and pointed and tend to fall off early
- Leaves long-stalked, 3- or 5-parted, deeply cut; coarsely toothed, often with distinctive light markings; upper leaves smaller
- Flowers from May to August





## Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)

- Deciduous shrub with arching branches; up to 15 feet tall
- Showy flower spikes, usually light purple but range from white to pink to dark purple
- Leaves and stems are typically hairy
- Leaves are opposite, lance- to egg-shaped, finely toothed and 4-10 inches long and 1-3 inches wide
- Leaves are usually green or blue-gray on top and whitish on the underside
- Leaf stalks are short and hairy, leaves may be attached directly to the stem
- Flowers bloom mid to late summer



## Cat's Ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*)

- Perennial from a stout root, ½ to 2 feet tall, stem branched above and nearly leafless, with milky juice
- Leaves all basal, toothed or lobed, covered with short, stiff, pointed hairs
- Stems wiry and tough, not tender and hollow like true dandelions



- Flower heads yellow at tops of stems; dandelion-like seeds



<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ipm/manual/blue/images/CommonCatsear.jpg>



[http://uspest.org/weeds/id/Spotted\\_catsear--Hypochaeris\\_radicata--m.s.jpg](http://uspest.org/weeds/id/Spotted_catsear--Hypochaeris_radicata--m.s.jpg)



## Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*)

- Somewhat woody, perennial herbaceous plant usually with bright blue flowers, rarely white or pink
- When flowering, it has a tough, grooved, and more or less hairy stem, from 10 to 40 inches tall
- Leaves are stalked, lanceolate and unlobed
- Flower heads are 3/4 to 1 1/2 in wide; flowers from July until October



Photos: <http://www.swcoloradowildflowers.com/blue%20purple%20enlarged%20photo%20pages/cichorium%20intybus.htm>

## Broadleaf Dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*)

### Curly Dock (*Rumex crispus*)

- 2 to 5 feet tall on stout stems
- In buckwheat family; membranous sheath at leaf base, swollen nodes
- Leaves are tough, hairless, alternate, prominent mid-vein
- Curly dock leaves are long, narrow and wavy edged and broadleaf dock leaves are broader and less wavy edged
- Flowering stem loosely branched and green
- Flowering stems turn a distinctive rusty brown in mid to late summer
- Fruits triangular, covered with papery, winged membrane



Virginia Tech Weed ID Guide

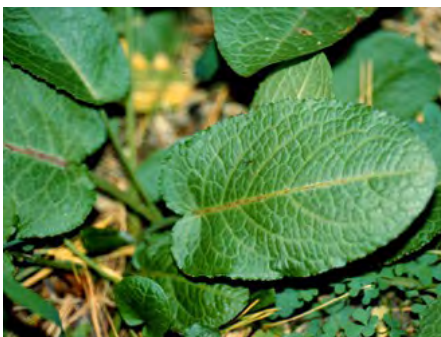


Photo by  
Richard Old  
www.xidsservices.com



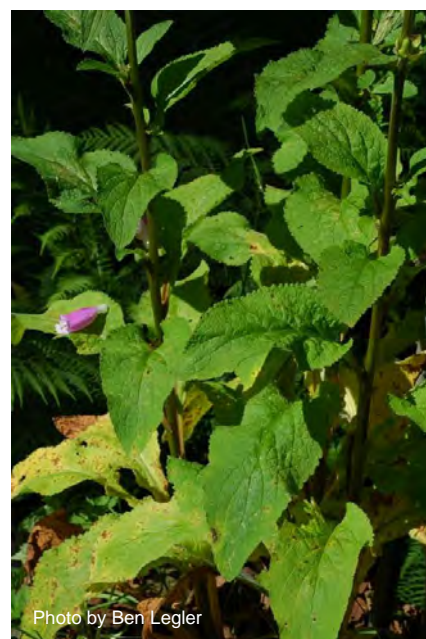
### **Native: Western Dock (*Rumex occidentalis*)**

- Resembles curly dock; perennial from a strong taproot, the stem usually single, erect, stout, unbranched below the inflorescence, reddish-tinged, 3 to 6 feet tall
- Leaves not as wavy as curly dock, but similarly long and narrow compared with broadleaf dock
- Often in moist to swampy areas



### **Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)**

- Robust, unbranched biennial, softly hairy all over
- Leaves alternate, oblong-ovate, lower leaves large with small, rounded teeth; stem leaves become smaller up the stem
- Flowers in a long, one-sided, cluster, petals pink to purple, tubular, the 5 lobes much reduced, the lowest the largest, the lower side paler and spotted; stamens 4; stigmas 2, flattened
- Fruits are capsule with numerous, minute seeds





## Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

- Biennial or winter annual, usually up to about 3 feet tall
- Small, white 4-petaled flowers in clusters on top of stems; April to May
- Overwinters as a basal rosette with kidney-shaped leaves
- Upper leaves triangular in shape, becoming smaller toward the top
- Plant is not fuzzy or noticeably hairy (only slightly hairy)
- Roots and new leaves smell like garlic
- Roots typically have a characteristic "s"-shaped bend
- Seed pods are long and narrow (like skinny string beans)
- Resembles many other plants such as nipplewort, money plant (*Lunaria*), fringe cup, nettles, and others. Make sure of ID before removing.



## Common Groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*)

- A small winter or summer annual with lobed leaves, can be up to 2 feet tall
- Leaves are variable: hairless to lightly covered with long wavy or cotton-like hairs; upper leaves are smaller than lower leaves and attach directly to the stem (without stalks); lower leaves have short stalks
- Flowers bloom nearly year-round
- Yellow flowers cluster into non-showy flower heads at the tip of the flowering stem
- Green reduced leaflike structures (bracts) with conspicuous black tips hug the base of the flower head, distinguishing groundsel from others in the aster family





## Common Hawkweed (*Hieracium lachenalii*)

- Stems upright, up to 2 1/2 feet tall, hairy, leafy, and topped by 4-12 small yellow flowers heads in an open, round-topped cluster
- Stems have a milky juice
- Leaf edges strongly toothed, leaf bases tapered and narrowing
- Leaves at base of stems are grey-green in color, broadly elliptical or lance-shaped, and still present when plants are flowering
- Stems have 4-7 leaves, smaller and lacking a stalk (petiole)
- Flower heads have hairs around the base



## European Hawkweed (*Hieracium sabaudum*)

- Multiple upright, leafy stems up to 4 feet tall from a single root base
- Numerous, small, dandelion-like flowers in a loose, branched, flat-topped candelabra shaped cluster; stems have milky juice



- Bloom time is late July to October
- About 50 stem leaves, larger and denser near the bottom and getting smaller up the stem; leaf edges toothed, leaves tapered and narrow toward the base
- Lower surface of leaf has long, slender hairs
- Lower portion of stem covered with dense, long, white hairs and stalks below flowers have soft white hairs





## Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)

## Yellow Hawkweed (*Hieracium caespitosum*)

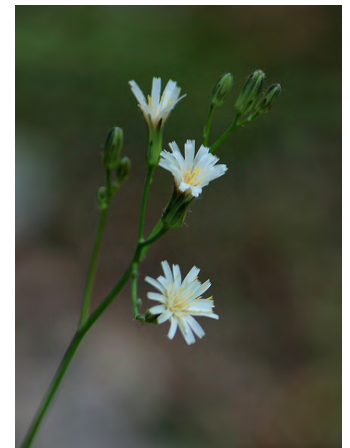
- Yellow or orange flower heads on mostly leafless, hairy stems
- All parts of the plant contains a milky juice
- Spreads by stolons and seeds
- Easy to ID by buds tightly clustered and blackish on tops of hairy stems

- Leaves with hairs and not lobed or toothed like other similar species



## Native: White Hawkweed (*Hieracium albiflorum*)

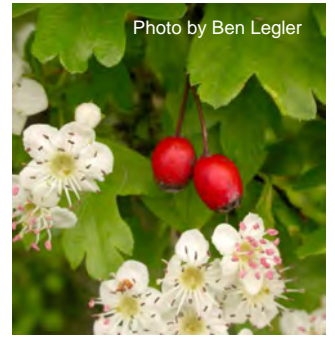
- Perennial from fibrous roots and a short rhizome, 1-4 ft tall, a few long hairs on the lower stem, with milky juice
- Basal and lower stem leaves persistent and mostly untoothed with a short petiole; middle and upper leaves stemless and smaller
- Flowerheads several to many in an open inflorescence, on slender stalks; base of flowerhead not hairy; flowers white





## Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)

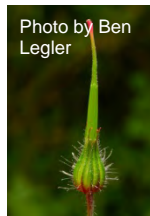
- Thorny, deciduous shrub or small tree with rounded crown, 6 to 35 feet tall
- Leaves alternate, dark green on top and pale below, deeply 3-lobed more than halfway to the midrib, look like little paws
- Flowers white and fragrant, like small apple blossoms, in a broad, dense, flat-topped cluster; bloom late May to early June
- Fruit a small, round crimson berry, in clusters
- Densely branched, with branches tending to hang down loosely
- Bark is dull brown with vertical orange cracks



## Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)

- Mature plants up to 10 inches with branched stems
- Distinct odor when plant is pulled or crushed
- Stems often red with white sticky hairs
- Flowers bright pink to white
- Deeply dissected green leaves
- Foliage can turn bright red, especially in sunny areas

- Roots are weak and fibrous
- Fruits are long, tapering and beak-like





## English Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)

- Evergreen shrub or tree with spiny leaves, 15 to 50 feet tall and up to 15+ feet wide
- Leaves are thick, glossy, dark green and wavy, 1-3 inches long, alternate, usually with sharp, stout spines along edges although may be smooth on older branches
- Flowers are small, whitish, inconspicuous, sweetly scented
- Berries in bunches, red, yellow or orange



## Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)

- Houndstongue is a biennial or short-lived perennial that can grow to 4 feet tall.
- Leaves are covered with rough hairs.
- The lower leaves are 4-12 inches long and ¾-inch wide.
- Upper leaves are smaller but lack stems.
- Flowers are dull, reddish-purple at the end of upper stems, blooming from May until frost.





## English Ivy (*Hedera helix*)

- Evergreen woody vine, climbing or creeping, can grow over 90 feet long with stems over a foot in diameter
- Two forms, juvenile and mature
- Juvenile leaves 3-5 lobed, dark green with light veins, lighter green on underside, alternately arranged, do not flower, juvenile stage lasts about 10 years
- Mature leaves are mostly unlobed, shiny, spirally arranged, produce flower clusters and berries
- Plants climb by adhering to surfaces; rootlets form on climbing stems and produce glue-like material
- Juvenile stage spreads vegetatively, stem fragments in contact with the soil regenerate growth



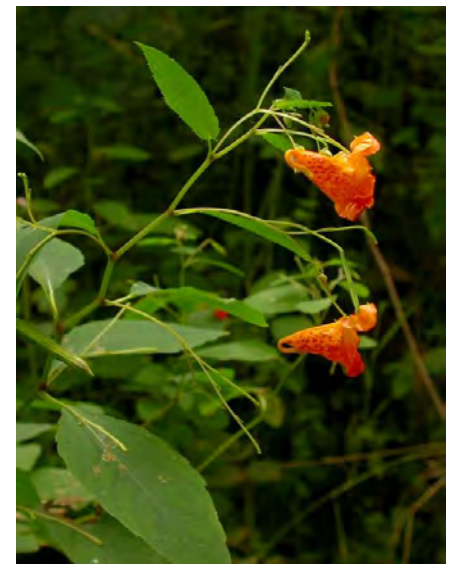
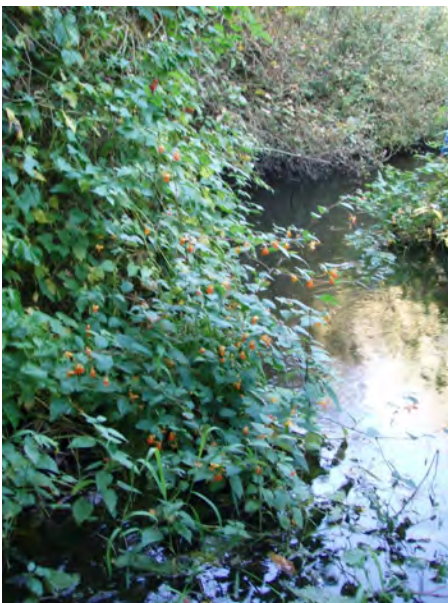
- Flowers form in clusters in the fall, followed by berries in winter



## Spotted Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*)

- Glabrous (non-hairy), succulent annual, the stems freely branched, 2-6 feet tall
- Leaves all alternate with stalks, shape is elliptic-ovate, scalloped edges, scallops tipped with a sharp point
- Flowers in twos dropping on thin stalks, tubular, spurred at the base and "lipped" (two lower lobes and one upper); light orange, spotted or mottled with red-orange

- Blooms July-Sept
- Fruit is a long, narrow capsule, exploding when ripe





## Diffuse Knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)

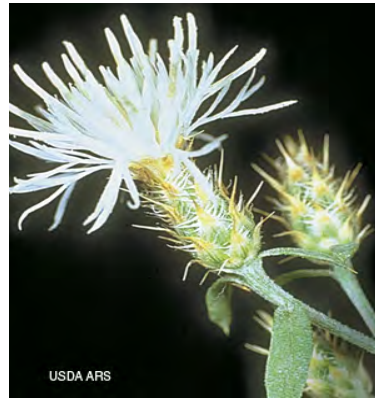
- Diffuse and spotted knapweed are very similar and hard to distinguish at juvenile stage, but diffuse is a biennial usually with white flowers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year plants are 4-24 inches tall, have a single main stem that divides into numerous branches about halfway up the stem, giving it a ball-shape
- Leaves are distinctly pale, grayish-green, hairy; basal leaves stalked and divided into narrow segments; stem leaves smaller and stalkless
- Stems are angled, with short, stiff hairs on the angles
- Flowers are usually white, sometimes pink



Photo from Weeds of the West



- Blooms June to September
- Flower head bracts have rigid spines and lack dark fringe present on spotted knapweed.



## Meadow Knapweed (*Centaurea jacea* x *nigra*)

- Perennial that grows from a woody crown
- Seedlings are tap rooted; mature plants develop a cluster of roots below the woody crown.
- The upright stems, mostly 20 to 40 inches (50-100cm) tall, are branched and topped by a solitary flower head up to 1 inch wide.
- Basal leaves are lance-shaped, up to 6 inches long, 1 1/2 inches wide, slightly pubescent, and may be partly lobed, coarsely toothed or have wavy margins.
- Stem leaves usually don't have a stalk and are much smaller.
- Flowers are rose-purple (occasionally white) and borne in heads about the size of a nickel that are more rounded than other knapweeds.



- The light to dark brown bracts which surround the flower head bear a papery fringed margin. At flowering, the bracts have a coppery sheen
- Flowering typically from mid-June to August





## Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*)

- Short-lived perennial or sometimes biennial with stout taproot
- Upright branched stems, up to 5 feet tall when in flower
- Flower heads are small, oval, with light purple to pinkish flowers
- Bracts (found under the flower head) have black triangular spots
- Medium-green leaves with a silvery-gray cast, often deeply lobed and sparse
- Flowers continuously from early summer into the fall, as long as moisture and temperatures permit



## Japanese Knotweed Bohemian Knotweed Giant Knotweed

(*Polygonum cuspidatum*, *P. bohemicum*, *P. sachalinense*)

- Forms large, dense thickets, 4 to 12 feet tall
- Bamboo-like reddish-brown canes
- Stout, hollow stems with thin, papery sheaths at the swollen nodes
- Leaves predominately heart or broadly triangular shaped; giant knotweed leaves often exceed 12 inches across, twice the size of Japanese knotweed leaves, and bohemian knotweed leaves are intermediate between giant and Japanese
- Flowers are small, creamy white and grow in showy plume-like branched clusters, late July to August
- Often in moist soil, but can also grow in dry areas
- Dead canes persist over the winter





## Mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*)

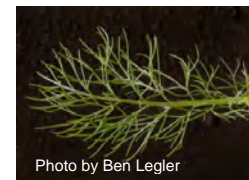
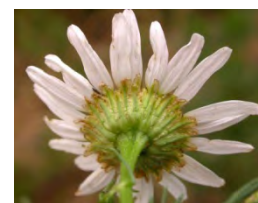
### False Mayweed (*Tripleurospermum perforatum*)

- Both plants have numerous, small daisy-like flowers at the ends of stems that become ovoid when mature, are glabrous (non-hairy), have deeply dissected leaves with narrow segments, and are from 4 inches to 2 feet tall
- Mayweed has a strong, unpleasant smell and is an annual
- False mayweed (also called scentless mayweed) doesn't smell strongly, is a biennial or perennial and has very narrow, almost thread-like leaf segments

#### Mayweed



#### False Mayweed



## Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*)

- Erect, perennial forb, 1 ½ feet to 7 feet tall; stems mostly smooth, hairless below the inflorescence; multiple stems from rhizomes
- Flower head yellowish; inflorescence usually large, leafy clusters; blooms July-Oct.
- Leaves alternate, green above, with dense silvery fuzz below, oval in outline, divided into unequal, usually toothed segments





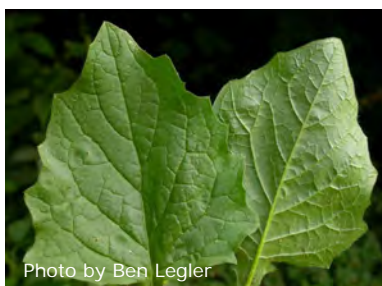
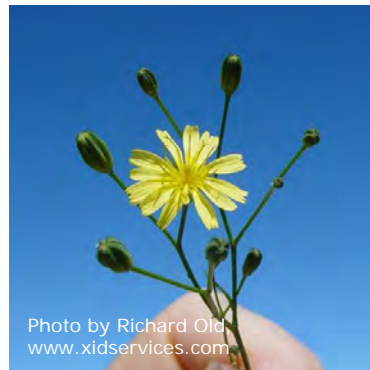
## Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*)

- Upright herbaceous biennial with distinctive, tall flower stalks and felt-like leaves
- First year plants are low-growing rosettes of bluish gray-green, feltlike leaves that range from 4-12 inches in length and 1-5 inches in width
- Mature flowering plants are produced the second year, and grow to 5 to 10 feet in height, including the conspicuous flowering stalk
- Flowers are yellow with five petals, on a tall, leafy spike; flowers bloom a few at a time from June-August
- Leaves alternate along the flowering stalks and are much larger toward the base of the plant



## Nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*)

- Upright herbaceous annual with a single stem, from 1/2 foot to 5 feet tall, with milky juice, slightly reddish stems with short, stiff white hairs
- Leaves hairy, alternate, shallowly toothed; lower leaves with a large end-lobe and 2 shallow lobes near the slightly winged, hairy leaf stalk; upper leaves smaller, unlobed
- Small dandelion-like flowers with 13-20 pale yellow ray petals with blunt, toothed tips
- Flowers in loose clusters on bare stalks; blooms June-Sept
- Seeds smooth and curved without a fluffy pappus (that is, not winged like a dandelion seed)
- Common in moist, shady woods and fields





## Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

- Perennial daisy that grows 1 to 3 feet tall with 1-40 stems per plant
- Leaves on stems are small, alternate, lack stalks, lance shaped with blunt teeth or mostly smooth edged
- Basal leaves stalked, lance-shaped but wider at the ends, with rounded teeth or lobes
- Stems arise from upturned rhizomes or buds on root crown, range from hairless to slightly hairy
- Flowers are daisy-like, solitary on ends of stems, yellow centers with 15-20 white ray flowers (petals)
- Involucre bracts narrow with a dark brown margin; no pappus on seeds
- Shallow, branched rhizomes and adventitious roots
- Flowers June to August



## Greater or Common Plantain (*Plantago major*)

### Narrowleaf or English Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*)

- Low-growing perennials with a basal rosette of waxy, untoothed, mostly unhairy leaves with distinctive veins or ribs and leafless, unbranched, ridged flower stalks that emerge from the center of the leaf rosette
- Greater plantain has broad oval leaves that tend to hug the ground; narrowleaf plantain has narrow, longer leaves that aren't as flat to the ground
- Greater plantain flowering stems are 5-15 inches long, with small greenish-white flowers densely packed along much of the stalk; flowers become capsule-like seedpods that split in half to disperse seeds
- Narrowleaf plantain flowering stalks are 6-18 inches tall and topped by a compact, oblong spike of flowers about ½–2 inches long, with small flowers densely crowded together, facing in all directions with distinctive stamens sticking out from the flower heads

- Both plants have a taproot with fibrous roots



Greater Plantain



Photo by Ben Legler

Narrowleaf Plantain



Photo by Ben Legler

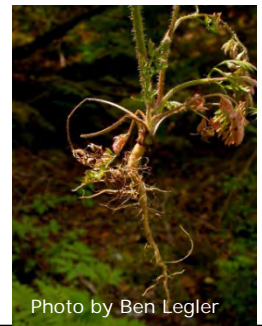
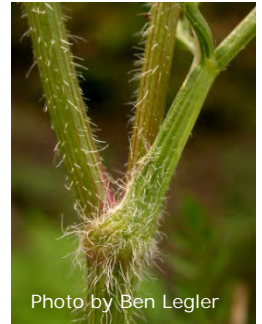


Photo by Ben Legler



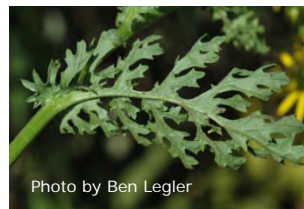
## Queen Anne's Lace or Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*)

- First year growth looks like a carrot plant with stalked, lobed, deeply dissected leaves without hairs on the upper surface, may have hairs on the veins and margins of the lower surface
- Leaves on the flowering stems produced during the second year of growth are alternate, oblong in outline, with lobed segments
- Flowers grow in densely packed, flat-topped, umbels (umbrella-shaped clusters) on tops of green, hairy, hollow stalks (no purple spots like poison-hemlock although may turn purplish at times)
- Often a solitary purple flower occurs in the center of the cluster
- Flower clusters may curve inward at maturity producing a 'bird's nest' effect
- Roots are a slightly thickened taproot (looks like a skinny carrot)



## Tansy Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)

- Young plants have basal rosette of ruffled leaves
- Mature plants produce leafy flowering stalks, generally 2 to 4 feet tall
- Flowers are daisy-like with yellow ray petals and yellow center
- Leaves are dark green on top, whitish-green underneath, with deeply cut, blunt-toothed lobes with a ragged, ruffled appearance
- Often confused with common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), which has button-like flowers with no ray petals and flattened, fern-like leaves
- Generally biennial, with flowers in the second year
- Flowers June to October, forming seeds in August





## Woodland Ragwort (*Senecio sylvaticus*)

- Sparsely pubescent, tap-rooted annual, usually with a simple stem 6 inches to 2 1/2 feet tall
- Leafy throughout, the leaves more or less dissected and irregularly toothed, narrowly lance shaped in outline
- Resembles common groundsel but is generally larger; also distinguished by the number of bracts around the base of the flowerhead (common groundsel has about 21, woodland ragwort, 13), the lack of black-tips on the bracts (common groundsel has black-tipped bracts around flowerhead, woodland ragwort doesn't) and the aroma (woodland ragwort smells unpleasant)
- Also resembles tansy ragwort but distinguished by the very short ray petals (looks like the flowers never open up) and the narrow, smaller leaves that are also grayer and more softly hairy (pubescent)



## Red Sorrel, Sheep Sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*)

- Similar-looking to dock but smaller (4 to 16 inches tall) with narrow, hairless, usually arrow-shaped leaves with lobes pointing outward and a sour taste
- Stem reddish, ridged, branched from inflorescences upward
- Small flowers in long, narrow rows at the ends of stalks; male flowers are orange-yellow, and female red-orange, borne on separate plants; nuts brown, roundish, three-edged, and glossy
- Has thread-like, slender rhizomes

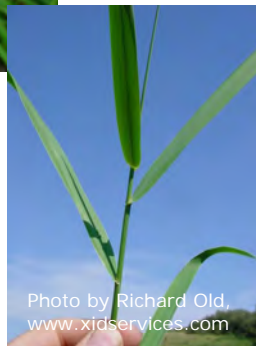




## Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)

- Tall, perennial, bright green wetland grass that grows 3 to 6 feet tall
- Sturdy hollow stems up to ½ inch wide
- Leaf blades flat, hairless, wide, and come off the stem at a 45 degree angle
- Flower spikes on stems high above the leaves; start out tan and turn reddish as they mature; flowers in June and July
- Tends to grow in wet areas

- Where leaf attaches to stem, look for long, papery ligule (translucent membrane)



## Yellow Salsify or Oysterplant (*Tragopogon dubius*)

- Biennial or annual from a fleshy taproot, stem usually branched, 1 to 3 feet tall, stem has milky juice
- Leaves are alternate, clasping, long and narrow, tapering from base to tip, grass-like with straight, pointed tips
- Flowerhead 1 1/2 inches wide with pale lemon-yellow ray flowers, bracts longer than the rays; inflorescence a single head on a long stalk; stalk enlarged and hollow under the flowerhead; blooms May-July
- Fruit is a dry seed on a whitish, fluffy pappus forming a large, interwoven ball





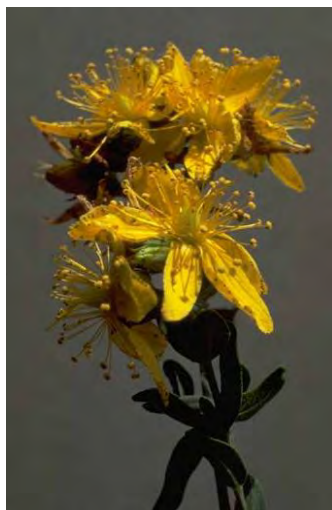
## Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)

- Green-stemmed shrub with yellow pea-type flowers that reaches heights of 6 to 10 feet
- Branches evergreen and angled with prominent ridges; leafless after summer
- Small, oval leaves can be single but are generally three-parted; fall off during summer drought
- Flowers from March to June
- Seeds produced in legume type pods that start green and turn black and dry, with hairs around edges of pod
- When mature, the seedpods split and eject seeds up to 20 feet away



## Common St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

- Upright perennial plant 2-4 feet tall, grows from tap root with one or several stems
- Stems are reddish, smooth, somewhat two-edged, woody at the base, and branching out toward the top of the plant
- Narrow, short leaves are opposite, about one inch long, stalkless with pointed tips, spotted with tiny translucent dots
- Flowers have five yellow petals and many yellow stamens, appear in clusters at branch ends from May to late September
- Spreads both by underground and above-ground creeping stems, and by seed
- Each plant may include several well spaced crowns, each with lateral roots





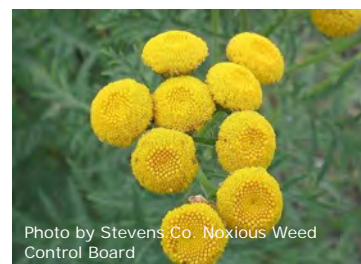
## Sulfur Cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)

- Closely resembles native plant Slender Cinquefoil (*Potentilla gracilis*)
- KEY ID FEATURES: flowers pale yellow (as opposed to golden yellow on slender cinquefoil), leaves generally held erect, hairs on stem stick out at right angles (instead of laying flat on stem), leaves 5-7 palmately lobed
- Stout, hairy, leafy, unbranched stems, reaching up to 3 feet tall
- Light yellow flowers with 5 heart-shaped petals surrounding a darker yellow center
- Leaves palmately lobed with 5 to 7 long leaflets uniformly toothed along the edges
- Perennial from a woody crown
- Flowers from early June through July
- Deep woody branching taproot surrounded by shallow, spreading side roots



## Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)

- Often confused with tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) due to its highly visible yellow flowers that bloom at the same time; distinguished by the leaf shape, tough creeping rhizomes, and lack of ray petals
- 2 to 6 foot tall purplish-green stems topped with dense, flat or somewhat rounded clusters of 20-200 bright yellow "button" flowers from stout rhizomes
- Each flower head has yellow button-like disk flowers and no ray petals
- Alternate leaves are deeply toothed and appear fern-like when emerging in the spring
- Plant is strongly aromatic
- Plants can flower from July to September





## Bull Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)

- Branched biennial, 2 to 5 feet tall
- Sharp spines on leaf edges and stems
- Leaves hairy on both the top and underside and deeply lobed
- Numerous large (up to 2 inches wide) rose-colored to purple flower heads densely surrounded by sharp spines around the base, not spider-webby; June to September
- Flowers clustered at the ends of branches
- Has short, fleshy taproot with several primary roots



## Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)

- Perennial 2 to 5 feet tall, branched stems, with extensive deep, vertical roots and creeping horizontal roots
- Leaves are 2 to 7 inches long, narrow, not hairy, with crinkled, deeply lobed, generally spiny edges (varies from very spiny to only somewhat prickly)
- Numerous pink to lavender flower heads on the tips of branches
- Flower heads smaller than those found on other thistles
- Single plants can cover large areas with many stems
- Most plant spread is by lateral root growth and new shoots from root buds; horizontal roots may extend 15 feet and vertical roots 6-15 feet deep
- Flowers June to August or September





### Native: Edible Thistle (*Cirsium edule*)

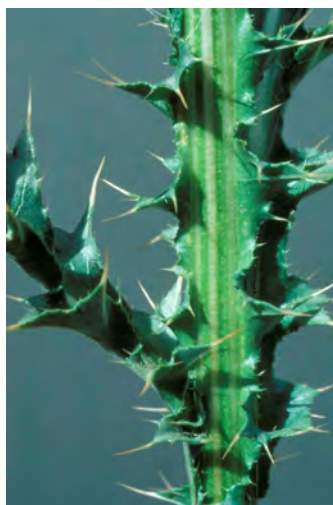
- Tap-rooted biennial or short-lived perennial, 1 ½ to 6 ½ feet tall, the stem succulent and not spiny, thick below and tapering
- Leaves green but sparsely covered with long, soft hairs on both surfaces, moderately spiny, lobed, roughly lance-shaped, up to 1 foot long.
- Flower heads usually borne singly at the ends of the branches; spider-webby around the involucres (base of head), bracts loose, all slender and tapering, mostly with short spine tips; flowers bright pink-purple, the style sticking out beyond the petals
- A similar native thistle called clustered thistle (*Cirsium brevistylum*) has multiple

flower heads on each stem, grows up to 8 feet tall, and is less spiny; it also has woolly or spider-webby flower heads and non-spiny stems.



### Musk Thistle (*Carduus nutans*)

- Biennial thistle from 1 to 8 feet tall with spiny wings along the stems
- Leaves deeply lobed, spiny, up to 1 ½ feet long and mostly glabrous (not hairy)
- Flower head 1 ½ to 3 inches across, bright pink-purple and usually solitary, often nodding at the ends of long, smooth stalks; blooms June-Oct.
- Bracts around flower head base are often purple and broad with a flat spiny tip





## Dalmatian Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)

- Narrow, upright perennial, grows to 5 feet tall
- Leaves are waxy, light green, dense, heart-shaped; upper leaves are broad-based and clasp the stem
- Snapdragon-type flowers are bright yellow tinged with orange and are 1 to 1.5 inches long
- Stems are stout, mostly unbranched below the flowers
- Vertical roots are large, rough and may extend down 6 feet or more; slender lateral roots extend 10 feet or more, remaining close to the soil surface



## Yellow Toadflax or Butter and Eggs (*Linaria vulgaris*)

- Smallish, perennial herbaceous plant, 1 to 2 feet tall with multiple erect stems growing from rootstalks
- Leaves are long and narrow, waxy, alternate, and non-hairy (glabrous)
- Flowers are snapdragon-like, bright yellow often tinged with orange, with a long spur, arranged in an elongated cluster of 15 to 20 flowers along each stem; blooming from mid July until late September
- Root buds form on the taproot and lateral roots





## Common Veronica or Common Speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*)

- Fibrous-rooted perennial, the lower portion of the stem creeping and rooting at the nodes, with reduced leaves; upper portion of the stem upright, 2 to 10 inches long; plant has prominent, spreading hairs
- Leaves opposite, oval to elliptical, narrowing to the base, finely toothed
- Flowers light blue, sometimes with lavender stripes, in a spike-like arrangement on long stalks from the upper leaf axils; flowers with 4 lobes that are longer than the tub; blooms April to July



Photo by Ben Legler



Photo by Ben Legler



Photo by Ben Legler



Photo by Ben Legler

## Field Veronica, Corn Speedwell (*Veronica arvensis*)

- Taprooted annual, somewhat hairy below and finely hairy above, the stem either upright or more prostrate, 1 to 12 inches long
- Leaves opposite, oval to elliptical, 1-2 times as long as wide, rounded teeth, short stalks or sessile
- Flowers violet to blue, 4-lobed, upper lobe the largest, lobes longer than the tube
- Flowers in spikes on tops of stems, with a narrow leaf-like bract below each flower (flowers and bracts are alternate on the stem unlike the opposite leaves); blooms April to September



Photo by Ben Legler



Photo by Ben Legler



Photo by Ben Legler

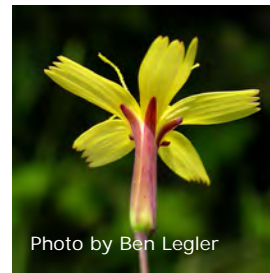


Photo by Ben Legler



## Wall Lettuce (*Mycelis muralis*)

- Slender, glabrous (not hairy) annual, 1 to 3 feet tall, with milky juice and distinctively shaped leaves
- Basal and lower leaves 2 to 7 inches long, deeply lobed, jagged-irregular leaf edges, with a large terminal lobe, lower surface glaucous (waxy coating that rubs off); upper leaves few and much smaller
- Small yellow flower heads in an open arrangement; dandelion-type flowers but much smaller, with only 5 ray petals and a narrow, sometimes reddish base; blooms July to September



## Yellow Archangel (*Lamiaeum galeobdolon*)

- Perennial creeping ground cover, 8 to 16 inches tall, may be either trailing or upright depending on conditions; grows year round although doesn't look like an evergreen
- Plants hairy throughout with a strong odor, square stems, leafy stolons
- Leaves opposite, stalked, typically variegated with silvery-grey markings, oval-shaped, prominently veined, with coarsely toothed margins
- Flowers are small, yellow and tubular, divided into irregular "lips" with upper lip hooded; on little stems that rise above the leaves; blooms April to June
- Grows in dense patches and tends to be clambering, growing up and over other low-growing plants; tends to more upright when growing in full sun
- Spreads easily from stem fragments as well as seed





## Yellow Flag Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)

- Herbaceous perennial from short, thick rhizomes, forming dense clumps, the simple flowering stem up to 3 feet tall; often remains green during mild winters
- Basal leaves stiff, long and narrow and are folded and clasp the stem at the base in a fan-like fashion
- Flowers pale to deep yellow, purple-lined, resemble a common garden iris; bloom in late spring or early summer
- Several flowers occur on each stem, along with one or two leafy bracts
- Seed capsules 3-celled, leathery, 2 to 3 inches long, resemble little brown bananas
- When not flowering, may be confused with cattail but flattened, fan-shaped leaf bases are distinct from the more rounded, squishy cattail stems
- Grows on edge of water and in wetlands



Pg	Latin Name	Common Name	Code	Pg	Latin Name	Common Name	Code
5	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	bugleweed	AJRE	55	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow flag iris	IRPS
13	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard	ALPE4	54	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	yellow archangel	LGA2
29	<i>Anthemis cotula</i>	mayweed	ANCO2	32	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	nippewort	LACO3
1	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	absinth wormwood	ARAB3	33	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	oxeye daisy	LEVU
7	<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	butterfly bush	BUDA2	49	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>	toadflax, Dalmatian	LIDA
2	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	bindweed, hedge	CASE13	50	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	toadflax, yellow	LIVU
48	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	thistle, musk	CANU5	53	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	wall lettuce	MYMU
25	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	knapweed, diffuse	CEDI3	39	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canarygrass	PHAR3
26	<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>	knapweed, meadow	CEPR2	34	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	plaintain, narrowleaf	PLLA
27	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	knapweed, spotted	CEST8	34	<i>Plantago major</i>	plaintain, greater	PLMA2
9	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	chicory	CIIN	28	<i>Polygonum bohemicum</i>	knotweed, Bohemian	POBO10
46	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	thistle, Canada	CIAR4	43	<i>Potentilla recta</i>	sulfur cinquefoil	PORE5
47	<i>Cirsium edule</i>	thistle, edible	Native	6	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	buttercup, creeping	RARE3
45	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	thistle, bull	CIVU	4	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	blackberry, Himalayan	RUAR9
19	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn, common	CRMO3	4	<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>	blackberry, evergreen <sup>2</sup>	RULA
22	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	houndstongue	CYOF	38	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	red sorrel	RUAC2
41	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch broom	CYSC4	10	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	dock, curly	RUCR
35	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Queen Anne's lace	DACA6	10	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	dock, broadleaf	RUOB
12	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove	DIPU	11	<i>Rumex occidentalis</i>	dock, western	Native
20	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb Robert	GERO	36	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	ragwort, tansy	SEJA
23	<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy, English	HEHE	37	<i>Senecio sylvaticus</i>	ragwort, woodland	SESY
18	<i>Hieracium alibiflorum</i>	hawkweed, white	Native	14	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	groundsel, common	SEVU
17	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	hawkweed, orange	HIAU	3	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	bittersweet nightshade	SODU
17	<i>Hieracium caespitosum</i>	hawkweed, yellow	HICA10	44	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	tansy, common	TAVU
15	<i>Hieracium lachenalii</i>	hawkweed, common	HILA8	40	<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	salsify, yellow	TRDU
16	<i>Hieracium sabaudum</i>	hawkweed, European	HISA4	29	<i>Tripleurospermum perforatum</i>	false mayweed	MAPE2
42	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	St. Johnswort, common	HYPE	31	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	mullein	VETH
8	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	cat's ear	HYRA3	52	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	veronica, field	VEAR
21	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	holly, English	ILAQ80	51	<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	veronica, common	VEOF
24	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	jewelweed, spotted	IMCA				